

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 231682
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/IRN:HPRECHT:AMP
APPROVED BY THE ACTING SECRETARY
L - MR. MARKS
INR - MR. BOWDLER
NEA - AMBASSADOR CRAWFORD
H - MR. ATWOOD (SUBS)
NSC - CAPTAIN SICK (DRAFT)
S/S-O : LRFLEISCHER
P - MR. NEWSOM

-----108997 131250Z /41

O 131239Z SEP 78 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 231682

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINR, IR

SUBJECT: SAVAK

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM ACTING SECRETARY

1. WE ARE CONTEMPLATING AN APPROACH TO GOI IN GENERAL
TERMS REGARDING CURRENT DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND MCGOVERN
SUBCOMMITTEE INVESTIGATIONS INTO SAVAK. BEFORE PROCEEDING
WE WOULD LIKE YOUR VIEWS AS TO CONTENT, TIMING, AND LOCUS
OF A POSSIBLE APPROACH.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 231682

2. OUR TENTATIVE JUDGMENT IS THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR
YOU TO RAISE THIS SUBJECT WITH THE GOI AT AN EARLY DATE.
A NEW YORK MAGAZINE ARTICLE ON SAVAK WHICH HAS JUST AP-
PEARED WILL BRING THIS QUESTION TO PUBLIC ATTENTION. WE
OWE IT TO OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE IRANIANS TO INITIATE
A FRANK DISCUSSION OF THIS ISSUE. WE KNOW THEY ARE AWARE
OF THE CHICAGO GRAND JURY INQUIRY AND POSSIBLY ALSO OF THE

MCGOVERN SUBCOMMITTEE INVESTIGATION. WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO PROCEED WITH AN ORDERLY CONSIDERATION OF THIS ISSUE. FURTHER, WE ARE CONCERNED THAT AS PART OF ITS GENERAL CRACKDOWN ON DISSIDENTS, GOI MAY DIRECT FURTHER SAVAK ACTIVITIES IN THE U.S. AN EARLY APPROACH COULD HEAD OFF THESE POTENTIAL PROBLEMS.

3. ACCORDINGLY, IF YOU AGREE AND SUBJECT TO CONSULTATIONS WITH JUSTICE AND POSSIBLY SENATOR MCGOVERN, WE WOULD PROPOSE A PRESENTATION TO THE GOI ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:

-- ACTIVITIES OF IRANIAN AGENTS, PARTICULARLY THOSE OF SAVAK, WHICH MAY CONTRAVENE OUR LAWS ARE BEING INVESTIGATED BY THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT AND THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE. WE DO NOT KNOW HOW THESE INVESTIGATIONS WILL COME OUT.

-- THE JUSTICE INVESTIGATION IS FOCUSING ON THE EVENTS SURROUNDING THE SHAH'S VISIT TO THE US IN NOVEMBER 1977. THE CHARGES WILL PROBABLY CENTER ON VIOLATIONS OF THE FOREIGN AGENTS REGISTRATION ACT AND THE CURRENCY LAWS.

-- THE MCGOVERN SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE IS ALSO CONDUCTING AN INVESTIGATION INTO SAVAK ACTIVITIES IN THE U.S. THIS INVESTIGATION FOCUSES ON HARASSMENT AND SURVEILLANCE OF FOREIGN NATIONALS IN
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 231682

THIS COUNTRY BY FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES. THE SUBCOMMITTEE IS LOOKING AT SIX COUNTRIES - INCLUDING, IRAN.

-- WE STRONGLY URGE THE GOI TO REVIEW THE SCOPE OF ALL THEIR ACTIVITIES IN THE US AND TO MAKE CERTAIN THAT ALL SUCH ACTIVITIES ARE CONDUCTED STRICTLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH OUR LAWS.

-- IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO US IF THE GOI COULD GIVE US ASSURANCES IN THIS REGARD WHICH WE COULD USE PUBLICLY.

-- WE WILL WANT TO STAY IN TOUCH WITH THE GOI AS THIS PROCESS GOES FORWARD.

4. WE WOULD LIKE YOUR VIEWS ON WHETHER THIS APPROACH SHOULD BE MADE DIRECTLY TO THE SHAH, TO A SUBORDINATE OFFICIAL, E.G. THE PRIME MINISTER, TO AMBASSADOR ZAHEDI HERE IN WASHINGTON OR THROUGH PARALLEL APPROACHES HERE AND IN TEHRAN.

5. PLEASE GIVE US YOUR FRANK ASSESSMENT AS TO HOW WE

SHOULD PROCEED ON THIS MATTER AT THIS PARTICULARLY
SENSITIVE TIME.

6. WE ARE MAINTAINING CONTACT WITH JUSTICE ON INVESTIGATION
OF IRANIAN STUDENTS ASSOCIATION BUT HAVE NOTHING FURTHER AT
THIS STAGE. CHRISTOPHER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, ESPIONAGE, REORGANIZATIONS, GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, POLICE FORCES, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, INVESTIGATIONS, CIVIL DISORDERS, CAT-B
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 sep 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE231682
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: HPRECHT:AMP
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: P840156-2026, N780007-0525
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780971/aaaacgjl.tel
Line Count: 122
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f0f75751-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1449928
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SAVAK
TAGS: PINS, IR, US, SAVAK
To: TEHRAN
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f0f75751-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014